

Judges' Committee Conference Call
7:00 pm Monday, August 17th
Meeting Minutes

DRAFT 8-19

I. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Secretary Wayne Balsiger at 7:01 PM EDT, 4:01 PM PDT
Sarah will be late because of a leg emergency.

II. Roll Call

Attendees

Chair Sarah Ashton

Wayne Balsiger, JC Secretary

RAJs: Mary Pierce, Area A

Bruce Cook, Area B

Jim Walsh, Area C

Edith Collins, Area D

Nancy Zangerle, Area E

Chris Luppens, Area F

Michael Gross, Area G

Michael Roth, Area H

Steve Schupak, Area J

Mike Kaspar, Area K

Craig Daniels, Area L

Matt Hill, Race Administration Director

Bill Simon, Chair Judges Training and Testing Subcommittee

Bruce Martinson, Chair Club Judge Program

Nancy Glover, Round Table Coordinators

Kathy Lindgren, Chair, Umpire Committee

III. Approval of June Minutes

The June 2020 minutes were approved as written.

IV. JETTS

- a. Virtual Education – Bill Simon, Nancy Glover, Bruce Martinson
Does happen often this year.

- b. Club Judge – Bruce Martinson

Bill Simon: Bruce Martinson has done a great job with Club Judge and all the modules he has done on this. Added 'around the race course' and many, many modules. Tremendous amount of work. Making more interesting as well for participants. It is in Canvas, the online training software US Sailing chose. Quizzes after each section for proof of knowledge. Assignments, students fill in form with answers that then all go to instructors to review. New Club Judge Seminar can give in person as well, with online portions done ahead of time starting 10 days before. Then sections like protest hearings done in person.

Set up to do over 24 days. Working on making shorter, like 17 days.

Bruce has gone thru all the lessons and exercises in 5 – 6 hours, obviously as a knowledgeable user, not a student.

Both Bill and Bruce M think we will have much better judges coming out of this.

Ready to roll out in about 3 weeks. Instructors need to learn the Canvas software. Instructors should do 2 - 3 sessions a year to keep up their Canvas skills.

Wayne commented for all the JC: Bruce, we appreciate the skill and tremendous effort you have made to create the many modules and move the Club Judge Program to Canvas. The JC Thanks you.

Instructor training: can be co-instructor as training for future instructor.
Anyone can get free account at Canvas to learn basics of using it.

Matt Hill: Passport to Canvas is an online course to walk thru features of Canvas.
Instructors often co-teach before being lead teacher.
There is always a pre-session call to make sure the instructors know their way around Canvas.
Fewer instructors needed with remote learning because geography is less of an issue.

JC members may be an observer to learn Canvas if they want to.

c. Protest day as part of Club Judge

Bill Simon: Propose that we make it a recommendation to hold a Protest Day as part of a Club Judge Seminar requirements. Protest Day produces all the references and all the hearings a student needs.

- i. This would be the good way for the person to get a good experience from known quality judges they can use for recommendations (more unified standard).
- ii. In this time of limited sailing, they can get it all at once and from home with no travel.
- iii. They will get the experience of doing hearings online, so if they are in a remote area, they can bring in other judges to help them.

Proposal approved.

d. Study Questions – Bill Simon

Review of questions finds that not all the answers are correct. Core Study questions and answers. Bill Simon proposes a full review on what we want judges to know with study questions. Bill Simon volunteers to take on and do it under the 2021 rules. Set up so that if question is answered wrong, the student gets a rule cite.

Go for it. Mike Gross willing to assist. Bill Simon will review his work and question answers with select judges to prevent unintended wrong answers.

(Craig Daniels noted the following note for Bill:

From the practice test: PD05, rule 18.1 certainly applies and it has to be true for 18.2(b) to apply. 18.1 was the wrong answer and 18.2(b) was the correct answer. I have to say that I believe they are both true.)

e. Instructor Application – Bill Simon

Qualifications for Instructors, Bill has written document. Need evaluations to make this work. Matt agrees. We can't institute the qualification requirements without the evaluations from both participants and instructors. Craig has been working on technical side with Charlie Arms on an on-line evaluation system that may help with this.
Qualification list for review: very close to ready to distribute to JC.

Commented [dws1]: I believe this is in relation to the RAC Task Force not an evaluation system.

V. Judges Manual – Wayne Balsiger

Wayne reviewed who has and has not sent in chapters by August 15th. He is combining all into one document and will distribute to JC for review. This update is mostly just for 2021 rule changes, but any other needed changes are welcome. He will sent out current status of submissions on Tuesday.

VI. RAJ Guide – Wayne Balsiger

Wayne asked if members had been using the guide and how useful was it? Good feedback from multiple members using it, and it was helpful. Wayne asked for suggestions on improving the Guide's flow as that was one aspect discussed when we released the guide.

Discussion on whether items such as CEU table should be in guide or a link. For example Table 4 a link to it. Wayne and Nancy Glover reiterated we are trying to have only one source document to prevent the inevitable conflicting information situation.

Bill Simon requested to Matt Hill that when forms are updated on web, the document needs to have date on document and same web address so links do not fail.

VII. Umpired events/CEEs – Craig Daniels

Main topic deferred to next meeting.

However, Bruce Cook had situation: Should a Fleet Race Umpiring Seminar instructor get Judging Seminar CEU credit. After short discussion, Bill Simon moved that an Instructor for Fleet Race Umpiring Seminar earns the CEUs given for one day of instructing a Judges seminar (120 CEUs) towards recertification as a Judge.

Craig seconded. Motion approved.

VIII. Plan of improvement – Jim Walsh

Small committee of David Pyron, Jim Walsh, Matt Hill and Justin Stark meeting weekly for several months.

Document should be ready within two weeks on a Race Official Reporting document. Will give a basic Plan of Improvement guideline for each group. Reporting document will be the same. Receipt in house, kept, guideline on how Certified Official is give due process when a Report is received.

Jim will pass on to committees for comments and it is a draft. We will see shortly. It is for all categories, not just Judges. Includes Classifiers, Measurers, Race Officers, Umpire, etc.

Jim said it has been a good committee with good perspectives.

IX. Race Administration Committee (RAC) Task Force

a. Summary – Sarah Ashton

The board requested task force met for 2 months, sub tasked met as well. To go out before end of August 2020. Will be an informative poll. Then request board to act upon to implement changes. A number of JC members have been on task force.

Understand what RO do and support they need form US Sailing and RAC.

b. Review Board – Nancy Glover

Review board is being reviewed by another group. Nancy Glover: Justin Stark looking at issues with review board

Matt: looking at where RAC can improve practices and align practices among groups.

X. Renewal guidelines – see attached.

The renewal guidelines for 2020 - 2021 have been published on the website. RAJ's start renewals now. Want to renew on-time unless missing events. Matt Hill will send out the list of certifications expiring at end of 2020.

XI. IJ renewal – Bruce Cook

WS's rules pertaining to IJ certification and IJ renewals given 2020 event cancellations have just been published and should be on the WS website.

The IJ test requires a proctor and the proctor is supposed to be present with the test taker when the test is taken. A US test is not a substitute for a WS test for international certification.

XII. New Applications/upgrades

a. Phillip Katzman RJ – Mike Roth

Nancy Grover moved he be approved.

Phillip Katzman approved as a Regional Judge.

Note: Sarah Ashton arrived.

XIII. Rules App and On-line protest form and process - Matt.

For 2021 Rules US Sailing is building a 'real' app for this quads rules. The app will be full function with an online protest form that can be filled out and emailed. Also an online white board where you can draw 6 panels showing the incident and the software will stitch into a moving GIF to see the progression of the incident. Events need to provide email address for PC to receive protests in this manner.

Agreement from Matt that the 2013 app was better than 2017. For 2021, develop a real app including Build an index for US version and have full search capacity. Initially for iPhone with Android to follow.

XIV. Cliff Black submitted a question

Question: For a No Appeal Protest Committee to maintain their otherwise approved status by US Sailing, would it be required for all members of the Protest Committee be present at the venue available for service?

Answer: No. There are no requirements on where the PC holds hearings or prevent on-line meetings such as via Zoom.

XV. February meeting – Craig Daniels

Proposal that we do our annual meeting remotely as a virtual meeting in 2021.

Discussion on in-person or virtual meeting. If Virtual, do we want one 8 hour day or multiple shorter sessions. Most do not want an all-day Zoom meeting. Date picked at moment is Feb 20-21, 2021. Laser Mid-Winters date is unknown and a potential conflict to avoid.

Decision made is Craig will put out a proposal in next several weeks to the JC to discuss meeting options.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 PM EDT and 5:50PM PDT

Respectfully submitted,
Wayne Balsiger
JC Secretary